

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

9 OCTOBER 1963

~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Algeria-
Berbers

a. Despite threats to "crush" his Berber opponents, Ben Bella still hesitates to use force. So far he has contented himself with throwing a cordon around the Kabylie region.

b. He may, however, feel compelled to end his inaction soon lest the example of the Berbers spread.

c.



Ben Bella has postponed his departure for New York.

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2. Morocco-
Algeria

a. Temperatures jumped again yesterday over the Moroccan-Algerian border issue.

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b. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Moroccan force attacked Algerian outposts some 250 miles southwest of Colomb-Bechar.

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3. Syria-Iraq

a. The Baathist rulers in Damascus and Baghdad moved a step closer together yesterday.

b. They agreed to unify their military commands by setting up a supreme defense council with a commander-in-chief and three members from each country. Iraqi Defense Minister Ammash was named to the top post.

(Cont'd)

c. Decisions on other kinds of unified arrangements may flow from the meeting of the Baath international, now underway in Damascus. A supreme economic council is one possibility.

d. This will not sit well with Nasir. Moreover, strong elements in both countries have not been disabused of the idea that any Arab union must include the Egyptians.

[redacted] pro-Nasir elements plan to stage a coup in Iraq

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4. Sino-Soviet dispute

a. Moscow still seems to be pointing toward a world-wide Communist meeting in November.

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c. Pravda has printed suggestions that representatives of some parties meet for this purpose. There were similar preliminaries to the 1960 Moscow conference.

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d. The Chinese, who were championing the idea of such a meeting a year ago when the Soviets saw it as bad tactics, have not been notably vocal on this point for some time.

e. At a conference held when the Chinese wanted it, there would have been great pressure on Moscow for more compromises to keep the movement together. Now the Chinese and their supporters can probably be isolated.

NOTES

- A. Cuba [redacted] 50X1
press accounts of the impact of hurricane Flora on Cuba. We do not have a clear idea yet on just how serious the damage was and will be taking a close look at this in the coming weeks. [redacted] 50X1
- B. Venezuela Pro-Castro terrorists reacted to Betancourt's Monday warning of an even more intensive crackdown by widespread acts of sabotage and terrorism. Yesterday two attempts were made to cut oil pipelines, there were a number of sniper attacks on police and national guardsmen, a pair of radio stations were bombed, and attacks were made on several villages in the northwestern part of the country. [redacted] 50X1
- C. Brazil Although the situation is calmer for the moment, nothing has been resolved. Goulart, already weakened by his inability to put over the state of siege declaration, was dealt another blow yesterday when congress voted down his constitutional amendment on agrarian reform. Lacerda emerges somewhat stronger, since he was the target of the state of siege. [redacted] 50X1

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- E. Malaysia Singapore's volatile leftists may take advantage of the opportunities for violence presented by the general strike launched yesterday. Several minor clashes between strikers and police were noted in this morning's press, but US officials on the spot feel that available security forces can probably control the situation.
- F. France-Indonesia The French, willing as ever to try and steal a march on the Anglo-Saxons, have suggested to the Indonesians that trade between the two countries might profitably be developed, especially in rubber.
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